

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated June 30, 2006, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1-21 are rejected to by the Examiner. Claims 1, 6, and 13 are hereby amended. Claims 1-21 remain pending in this application.

In the Office Action, claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,392,620 to Mizutani et al. (hereinafter “Mizutani”).

The rejection of claims 1-21 under U.S.C. § 102(e) is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 1-5 are allowable over the cited references in that these claims recite a combination of elements including, for example, “a backlight in a stand-by state throughout the duration of a responding period of the liquid crystal corresponding to the color data signal, wherein the backlight always generates only one colored light after the responding period in correspondence with the color data signals, wherein the color data signal is one of a red, green, and blue color signal.” Claims 6-12 are allowable over the cited references in that these claims recite a combination of elements including, for example, “generating always only one colored light after the responding period, wherein the colored light is generated in correspondence with the color data signals, wherein the color data signal is one of a red, green, and blue color signal.” Claims 13-21 are allowable over the cited references in that these claims recite a combination of elements including, for example, “a backlight in a stand-by state throughout the duration of responding periods as the liquid crystal responds to the data signals after the data signals are supplied to the liquid crystal cells and always generating only one colored light after the responding period.” Mizutani does not teach or suggest at least this feature of the claimed invention.

Mizutani in Figure 3A shows the backlight producing red light then green light and then blue light followed by an off period. In Mizutani the off time is to reduce the affects of color drift and/or image blur due to afterimage affects between color frames. (See Figures 3A, 3B, and 4, and column 4, lines 52-63.) This is different than the claimed invention. In claim 1, a color data signal is applied to a liquid crystal cell and there is a delay in the time it takes the liquid crystal to respond to an applied electric field and reach a state so that it is ready to pass the

desired amount of light. This delay is called the responding period of the liquid crystal, and it is during this period that the backlight is in standby. Then after the responding period and now that the liquid crystal is in a state to pass the desired amount of only one color of light, the backlight always generates only one colored light at a time. Typically this process then is repeated for the other colors. As a result there is responding period between the time when each different color of the backlight is turned on. The Examiner points out that Mizutani can achieve one color at a time by displaying only red for example. But, Mizutani does not always only generate one color, as this would not allow it to be used for its intended purpose of displaying images. Therefore, claims 1-21 are allowable over Mizutani.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,

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